

Paid March 2 1829

University of Pennsylvania

March 4th 1829.

Morton Weaver.

(Signature)

18th March 1812

My dear Sir

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 14th inst.

and in reply to inform you that the same has been forwarded to the proper authorities for their consideration.

I am, Sir, very respectfully,
Your obedient servant,

J. B. [Signature]

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[Faint text]

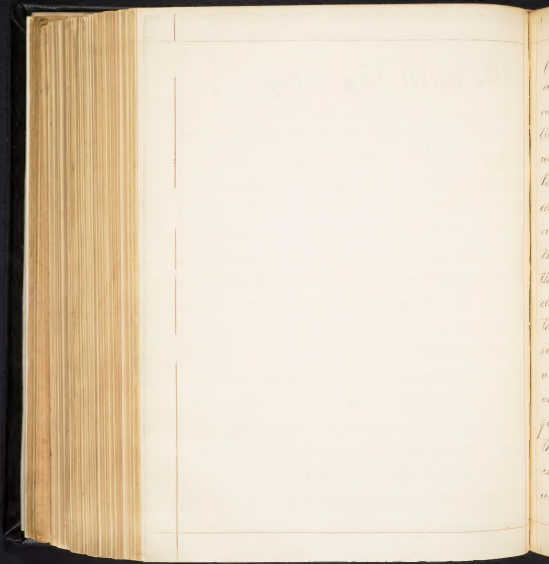
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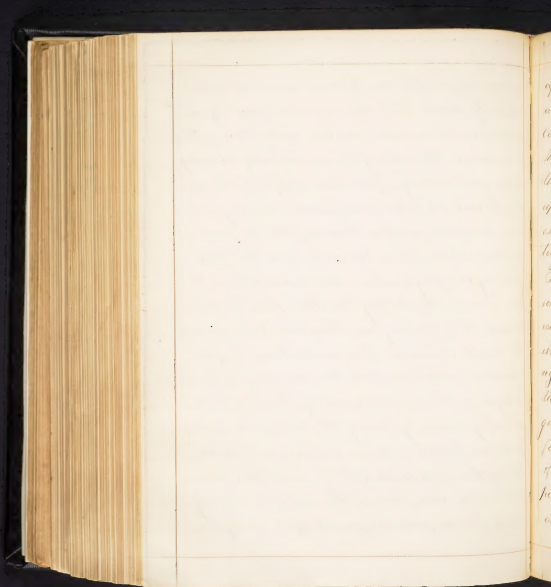
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On acute Dysentery.

This is a disease, more particularly, of the
Autumnal months; but like all other affections, uncer-
fixed by circumstances, Ipecac case, occurring through-
out the year. Its particular, or special devastations, manifest
themselves, however, in the fall of the year, the season
of the year, indeed, being especially, or peculiarly pre-
judicial, for its generation, in tropical climates, it is also
of more manifest prevalence. Under the oppressive in-
fluence, of a burning tropical sun, the vital energies
of the system, exhausted, by its influence, is rendered
particularly obnoxious to long causes, giving rise to Dysentery.
In military excursions, marching through countries, abun-
ding in sultry heats, and crops of mirtles, this combina-
tion proving the most adiquate, for the production of Dys-
entery. All diseases perhaps, are maintained by ex-
citement; the most favourable state of the system, for the
action of excitants, is that of debility; were we to look,

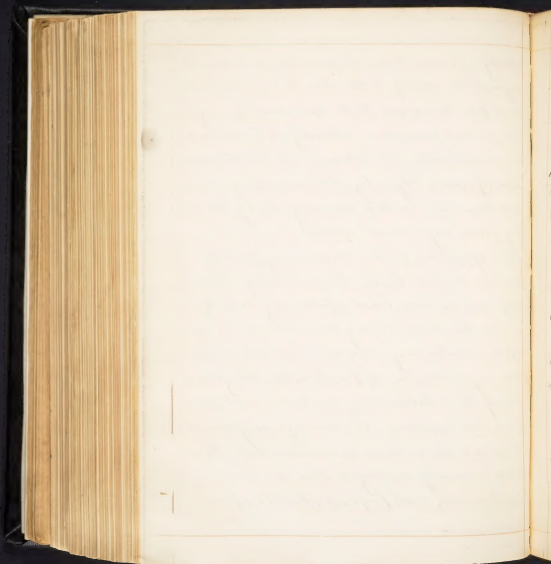


for debility, in the case before us, we should without
difficulty discover, that these very causes, every way cal-
culated for its production, had been exerting their influence.
And, moreover, that the system was, actually labouring,
under great debility. Great heat applied to the sys-
tem, prevails to action, perhaps, more than any other
stimulant we know, likewise, that an unac-
customed stimulant, is less easily borne. In these
military campaigns, which have been conducive, to
these remarks, the soldiers translated from a cold
climate, to a scorching sun, they have laboured under,
the double detriment, of an unaccustomed excessive
stimulant, which prestates the vital energies, to such
a degree, as to cause direct debility. Forced marches,
in sultry climates, by opening the skins of the skin,
give rise, to such a profuse discharge, as to make,
the system sink under debility. Food then admin-
istered, of a kind, incompatible with this debility,
which, it is supposed, at present affects the system-



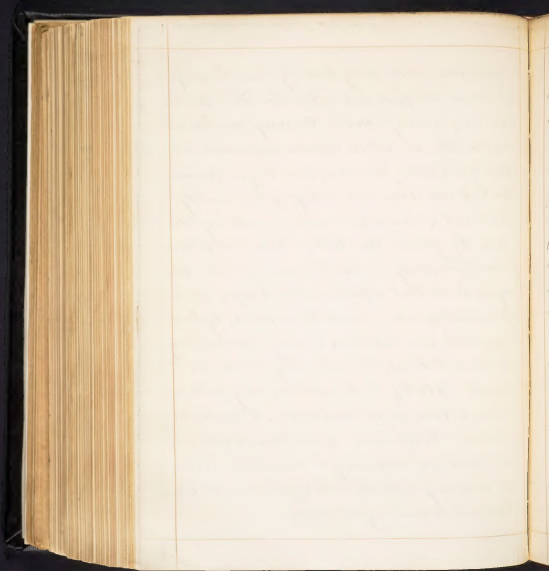
equally, gives rise to such an unnatural excitation, as to
augment the debility of the stomach and intestinal
canals, from the exposure to the chill air of the night;
there is, such a repulsion internally, as to, overload
the weaker, interior, the Stomach and Intestines more
especially, causes Typhoid. The predisposing causes,
as we have seen, are those occasioning debility; the exci-
ting causes, any stimuli applied.

The symptoms of this disease, may probably,
sometimes at first, be fever; but it is likely that it is
rarely such, as, some Cerebral affection, may probably ex-
ist from the first; It may be ushered in by exten-
sions, or, Diarrhoea may commence the attack; at first
there may be discharge of faecal matter, though not
generally the intestines are so constructed, as to prevent
faeces from appearing; The discharge may consist
of mucus alone, or of an intermixture with blood;
pus is occasionally discharged. Thus are *Formica-*
and Vermis, with frequent solicitations for —



evacuations, which mainly tend, by their stimulations,
to increase the pain and inflammation. There are nau-
sea and vomiting. There is tenderness over the ab-
domen, there are all the affections, dependent on
fever, quick pulse, hot skin, furred tongue, pain in
the back and loins, with restlessness and anxiety.

The mode of treatment consists, in reducing the
fever, by general blood letting; When it is reduced
which alone, rarely arrests the disease, we then have
regard to the local affection, which, being of an in-
flammatory nature, should be combated, by local
evacuations, and revulsives; leeching, and cupping,
the former to be preferred, when they can be con-
mended. Blister to the extremities may perhaps,
answer a better purpose, than applied to the tender
abdomen. Cataplasms, if the stomach will ad-
mit them, for determining to the surface; When
not interfering with the other applications, the warm
bath will answer a good purpose.



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